

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A hair dryer comprising:
  - 5 a housing having an air inlet and an air outlet;
  - a heater being positioned in said housing;
  - a motor being positioned in said housing; and
  - 10 a fan being operatively connected to said motor, said fan having one or more hubs having a plurality of blades,
  - wherein said housing has an inner annular sleeve surrounding said fan, said inner annular sleeve being positioned to form an air gap between
  - 15 said housing and said inner annular sleeve.
2. The hair dryer of claim 1, wherein said inner annular sleeve has a plurality of guides for directing an airflow generated by said fan.
- 20 3. The hair dryer of claim 2, wherein said inner annular sleeve is connected to a holder by said guides.
4. The hair dryer of claim 3, wherein said holder retains and
- 25 acoustically insulates said motor.
5. The hair dryer of claim 1, wherein said inner annular sleeve has one or more annular rings for converting into useful airflow, air vortices created by said plurality of blades.
- 30 6. The hair dryer of claim 5, wherein said inner annular sleeve has one or more annular ring defined apertures through which ambient air combines with said air vortices to have a noise dampening and/or an

airflow augmenting effect.

7. The hair dryer of claim 6, wherein inner annular sleeve is integral with said housing and wherein said housing has one or more apertures that correspond to said one or more annular ring defined apertures so that air outside of said housing can combine with said air vortices.

8. The hair dryer of claim 1, wherein said inner annular sleeve has one or more longitudinally defined apertures through which ambient air combines with said air vortices to have a noise dampening and/or an airflow augmenting effect.

9. The hair dryer of claim 8, wherein said inner annular sleeve is integral with said housing and wherein said housing has one or more apertures that correspond to said one or more annular longitudinally defined apertures so that air outside of said housing can combine with said air vortices.

10. The hair dryer of claim 1, further comprising a noise and/or vibration dampening outer sleeve overlapping at least a portion of said housing.

11. The hair dryer of claim 1, wherein said fan has a first hub with a plurality of first propeller blades and a second hub with a plurality of second propeller blades.

12. The hair dryer of claim 11, wherein said first hub and said second hub operatively cooperate with said motor via an axial drive shaft.

13. The hair dryer of claim 12, wherein said first hub is continuously operatively connected to said axial drive shaft and said second hub is selectively connected to said axial drive shaft.

14. The hair dryer of claim 13, further comprising a controller for cooperating with said motor and/or said fan to selectively and/or separately control the operation of said first hub and/or said second hub.

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15. The hair dryer of claim 11, wherein said housing has one or more apertures positioned between said air inlet and said air outlet and at an axial downstream distance from said inner annular sleeve.

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16. The hair dryer of claim 15, further comprising one or more inner annular airfoils positioned proximate said one or more apertures to separate said apertures from said second hub.

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17. The hair dryer of claim 1, wherein said fan is positioned part-in and part-out of said air inlet of said housing.

18. A hair dryer comprising:

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a housing having an air inlet and an air outlet;

a heater being positioned in said housing;

a motor being positioned in said housing; and

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a fan positioned in said housing and being operatively connected to said motor for generating an airflow;

an inner annular sleeve surrounding said fan,

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Wherein said inner annular sleeve is positioned to form an air gap between said housing and said inner annular sleeve, and wherein said inner annular sleeve has one or more apertures.

19. The hair dryer of claim 18, wherein said inner annular sleeve has a plurality of guides for directing an airflow generated by said fan.

20. The hair dryer of claim 19, wherein said one or more sleeve apertures cooperate with said fan to minimize air vortices created by said fan during operation.

21. The hair dryer of claim 20, wherein said inner annular sleeve is integral with said housing and wherein said housing has one or more apertures corresponding to said one or more sleeve apertures so that air outside of said housing can combine with said air vortices.

22. The hair dryer of claim 18, further comprising a noise and/or vibration dampening outer sleeve overlapping at least a portion of said housing.

23. The hair dryer of claim 18, wherein said fan has a first hub with a plurality of first propeller blades and a second hub with a plurality of second propeller blades.

24. The hair dryer of claim 23, wherein said first hub and said second hub operatively cooperate with said motor via an axial drive shaft.

25. The hair dryer of claim 24, wherein said first hub is continuously operatively connected to said axial drive shaft and said second hub is selectively connected to said axial drive shaft.

26. The hair dryer of claim 25, further comprising a controller for cooperating with said motor and/or said fan to selectively and/or separately control the operation of said first hub and/or said second hub.

27. The hair dryer of claim 18, wherein said housing has one or more apertures positioned between said air inlet and said air outlet and at

an axial downstream distance from said inner annular sleeve.

28. The hair dryer of claim 27, further comprising one or more inner annular airfoils positioned proximate said one or more housing apertures to separate said one or more housing apertures from said second hub.

29. The hair dryer of claim 18, wherein said fan is positioned part-in and part-out of said air inlet of said housing.

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30. A hair dryer comprising:

a housing having an air inlet and an air outlet;

15 a heater being positioned in said housing;

a motor being positioned in said housing;

20 a fan having one or more hubs with a plurality of propeller blades, said fan being operatively connected to said motor; and

a controller for selectively controlling said one or more hubs and/or said motor to selectively and/or separately manipulate the operation thereof,

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wherein said one or more housing apertures are positioned between said air inlet and said air outlet.

31. The hair dryer of claim 30, wherein said housing has one or more inner airfoils.

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32. The hair dryer of claim 31, wherein said housing has an inner annular sleeve surrounding said fan and positioned to form with said

housing an air gap therebetween.

33. A hair dryer comprising:

5 a housing having an air inlet and an air outlet;

a heater being positioned in said housing;

10 a motor being positioned in said housing; and

a fan being operatively connected to said motor and being  
positioned part-in and part-out of said housing.

34. A hair dryer comprising:

15 a housing having an air inlet and an air outlet;

a heater being positioned in said housing;

20 a fan for moving a high volume of air at slow rotational speeds;

a motor operatively connected to said fan to selectively drive said  
fan at high and/or low rotational speeds while operating at reduced motor  
speeds; and

25 a quiet shot control switch for instantaneously reducing said  
rotational speeds of said fan to facilitate a quieter operation thereof.